

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page as follows:

ABSTRACT

An embolic protection device ~~for use in a blood vessel when an interventional procedure is being performed in a stenosed or occluded region to capture any embolic material which may be created and released into the bloodstream during the procedure.~~ The device includes a filtering assembly having a self-expanding strut assembly and a filter element attached thereto. ~~In one embodiment, the filtering assembly is attached to the distal end of a guide wire and is deployed within the patient's vasculature as the guide wire is manipulated into the area of treatment.~~ In one aspect, the filtering assembly is rotatably mounted to a shaft member, such as a guide wire, the filtering assembly being mounted on an outer member coaxially disposed over an inner tubular member having a shorter length than the outer tubular member. The inner member is adapted to abut against a stop fitting on the shaft member. In another aspect, the strut assembly has a layer of polymeric material, or other substance, having a coefficient of friction less than the coefficient of friction of the strut assembly selectively deposited on portions of the strut assembly proximal to the filter. A restraining sheath placed over the filtering assembly in a coaxial arrangement maintains the filtering assembly in its collapsed position until it is ready to be deployed by the physician. Thereafter, the sheath can be retracted to expose the filtering assembly which will then self-expand within the patient's vasculature. Interventional devices can be delivered over the guide wire and any embolic debris created during the interventional procedure and released into the blood stream will enter the filtering assembly and be

~~captured therein. Other embodiments include filtering assemblies attached to an outer tubular member and inner shaft member which apply axial force to the distal ends of the assembly to either expand or contract the struts as needed.~~